IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:	§	Chapter 11
	§	
CORE SCIENTIFIC, INC., et al.,	§	Case No. 22-90341 (DRJ)
	§	
	§	(Jointly Administered)
Debtors. ¹	§	
	§	

DEBTORS' MOTION FOR ORDER (I) FURTHER EXTENDING THE DEADLINE BY WHICH THE DEBTORS MAY REMOVE CIVIL ACTIONS AND (II) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

IF YOU OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED, YOU MUST RESPOND IN WRITING. UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COURT, YOU MUST FILE YOUR RESPONSE ELECTRONICALLY AT HTTPS://ECF.TXSB.USCOURTS.GOV/WITHIN TWENTY-ONE DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS MOTION WAS FILED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ELECTRONIC FILING PRIVILEGES, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN OBJECTION THAT IS ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE CLERK WITHIN TWENTY-ONE DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS MOTION WAS FILED. OTHERWISE, THE COURT MAY TREAT THE PLEADING AS UNOPPOSED AND GRANT THE RELIEF REQUESTED.

Core Scientific, Inc. and its debtor affiliates, as debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "**Debtors**" or the "**Company**"), respectfully represent as follows in support of this motion (the "**Motion**"):

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are as follows: Core Scientific Mining LLC (6971); Core Scientific, Inc. (3837); Core Scientific Acquired Mining LLC (6074); Core Scientific Operating Company (5526); Radar Relay, Inc. (0496); Core Scientific Specialty Mining (Oklahoma) LLC (4327); American Property Acquisition, LLC (0825); Starboard Capital LLC (6677); RADAR LLC (5106); American Property Acquisitions I, LLC (9717); and American Property Acquisitions, VII, LLC (3198). The Debtors' corporate headquarters and service address is 210 Barton Springs Road, Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78704.

Background

- 1. On December 21, 2022 (the "**Petition Date**"), the Debtors each commenced with this Court a voluntary case under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "**Bankruptcy Code**"). The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. The Debtors' chapter 11 cases are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only pursuant to Rule 1015(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") and Rule 1015-1 of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "Local Rules"). On January 9, 2023, the United States Trustee for Region 7 (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee") in these chapter 11 cases pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

First Extension of the Deadline to Remove Civil Actions

- 3. On March 10, 2023, the Debtors filed the *Debtors' Motion for an Order (I)*Extending the Deadline by which the Debtors May Remove Civil Actions and (II) Granting Related

 Relief (Docket No. 660) (the "First Extension Motion").
- 4. On April 19, 2023, the Court entered the *Order (I) Extending the Deadline* by which the Debtors May Remove Civil Actions, and (II) Granting Related Relief (Docket No. 813), which granted the relief requested in the First Extension Motion, including extending the Debtors' deadline to remove civil actions from March 22, 2023 to July 20, 2023.

Jurisdiction

5. The Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

Relief Requested

- 6. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452, Bankruptcy Rules 9006(b) and 9027, and Bankruptcy Local Rules 9013-1, the Debtors request entry of an order (i) extending by 120 days the deadline by which the Debtors may file notices of removal under Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a) (the "**Removal Deadline**") from the current deadline of July 20, 2023 through and including November 17, 2023 and (ii) granting related relief.²
- 7. A proposed form of order granting the relief requested herein is annexed hereto as **Exhibit A** (the "**Proposed Order**").

Basis for Relief Requested

8. Bankruptcy Rule 9027 and 28 U.S.C. § 1452 govern the removal of pending civil actions. Specifically, section 1452(a) provides:

A party may remove any claim or cause of action in a civil action other than a proceeding before the United States Tax Court or a civil action by a governmental unit to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power, to the district court for the district where such civil action is pending, if such district court has jurisdiction of such claim or cause of action under section 1334 of this title.

28 U.S.C. § 1452(a).

Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(2) further provides, in pertinent part:

The deadline by which the Debtors may file notices of removal is July 20, 2023. Rule K of the Procedures for Complex Cases in the Southern District of Texas provides that "if a motion is filed that complies with [the procedures for complex cases] to extend the time to take any action before the expiration of the period prescribed by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Bankruptcy Rules, or a confirmed plan, the time for taking the action is automatically extended until the Court rules on the motion."

If the claim or cause of action in a civil action is pending when a case under the [Bankruptcy] Code is commenced, a notice of removal may be filed only within the longest of (A) 90 days after the order for relief in the case under the [Bankruptcy] Code, (B) 30 days after entry of an order terminating a stay, if the claim or cause of action in a civil action has been stayed under § 362 of the [Bankruptcy] Code, or (C) 30 days after a trustee qualifies in a chapter 11 reorganization case but not later than 180 days after the order for relief.

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9027(a)(2).

With respect to post-petition actions, Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(3) provides that a notice of removal may be filed:

[O]nly within the shorter of (A) 30 days after receipt, through service or otherwise, of a copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim or cause of action sought to be removed, or (B) 30 days after receipt of the summons if the initial pleading has been filed with the court but not served with the summons.

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9027(a)(3).

9. Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b) provides that the Court may extend the period within which the Debtors may remove actions provided by Bankruptcy Rule 9027, without notice, upon a showing for cause:

[W]hen an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specified period by these rules or by a notice given thereunder or by order of court, the court for cause shown may at any time in its discretion . . . with or without motion or notice order the period enlarged if the request therefor is made before the expiration of the period originally prescribed or as extended by a previous order . . .

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9006(b)(1).

Cause Exists to Extend Further the Removal Deadline

10. It is well settled that the Court is authorized to extend, for cause, the removal period provided under 28 U.S.C. § 1452 and Bankruptcy Rule 9027. *See, e.g., Talen Energy Supply, LLC,* No. 22-90054 (MI) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Apr. 27, 2023) (Docket No. 2024) (granting a

third 60-day extension of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); In re NPC Int'l, Inc., No. 20-33353 (DRJ) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Oct. 26, 2020) (Docket No. 1570) (granting the second of seven 120-day extensions of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); CBL & Assocs. Props., Inc., No. 20-35226 (DRJ) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Mar. 8, 2021) (Docket No. 1277) (granting the second of three 90day extensions of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); In re Fieldwood Energy LLC, No. 20-33948 (MI) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Dec. 2, 2020) (Docket No. 1215) (granting a second 120-day extension of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); In re CEC Ent., Inc., No. 20-33163 (MI) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Nov. 20, 2020) (Docket No. 1304) (granting a 120-day extension of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); In re EP Energy Corp., No. 19-35654 (MI) (Bankr. S.D. Tex. Feb. 10, 2020) (Docket No. 801) (granting a 120-day extension of the removal period without prejudice to debtors' ability to seek additional extensions); In re World Fin. Servs. Ctr., Inc., 81 B.R. 33, 39 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1987) (providing that the United States Supreme Court intended to give bankruptcy judges the power to enlarge the filing periods under Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a) pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b)).

the current deadline of July 20, 2023 through and including November 17, 2023. Prior to and since the First Extension Motion, the Debtors have focused a significant part of their efforts on developing and executing a restructuring strategy designed to maximize value for all of the Debtors' stakeholders. As further detailed in the Debtors' motion seeking a further extension of the exclusive periods for filing and soliciting a plan (Docket No.1065), the Debtors have made substantial progress towards confirming a chapter 11 plan. Indeed, on June 20, 2023, the Debtors

filed the *Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Core Scientific, Inc. and Its Affiliated Debtors* (Docket No. 974) (the "**Plan**") and the proposed *Disclosure Statement for Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Core Scientific, Inc. and Its Debtor Affiliates* (Docket No. 975) (the "**Disclosure Statement**"). Prior to and following the filing of the Plan and Disclosure Statement, the Debtors have been in constant discussions with each of their stakeholder groups in an effort to reach as much consensus as possible. The Debtors and their key stakeholders are scheduled to commence mediation with the Honorable Marvin Isgur on July 26, 2023 to try to reach consensus on the Plan (Docket No. 1052).

- 12. In addition to progressing plan negotiations with their key stakeholders, the Debtors have taken a number of other steps to maximize value for the Debtors' estates and clear a path to confirmation and emergence, including, but not limited to, conducting a marketing process to raise new money capital to fund potential cash needs at and following emergence.
- 13. The Debtors have also made significant progress reconciling claims filed against the Debtors through filing claims objections³ and entry into various settlements.⁴ In connection with such ongoing claim reconciliation process, the Debtors will continue to analyze and determine which civil actions (if any) they may seek to remove.
- 14. The Debtors are party to a number of civil actions in various jurisdictions (collectively, the "Civil Actions"). The Debtors' analysis regarding which, if any, of these Civil Actions they may seek to remove depends on a number of factors, including but not limited to:

³ See, e.g., Debtors' Objection to Proof of Claims Nos. 425 and 497 filed by Celsius Mining LLC (Docket No. 819); Debtors' Objection to Proofs of Claim Nos. 358 and 359 Filed By Sphere 3d Corp (Docket No. 869); Debtors' Objection to Proof of Claim Nos. 503, 505, 506, 508, 570, 571, and 572 Filed By Gem Mining 1, LLC, Gem Mining 2b, LLC, Gem Mining 2b, LLC, Gem Mining 2b, LLC, Gem Mining 2b, LLC, And Gem Mining 4, LLC, Respectively (Docket No. 854); Debtors' Objection to Proof of Claim Nos. 19 and 120 Filed By Bryce Johnson (Docket No. 871).

⁴ The terms of the settlements reached with the M&M lien claimants are described in detail in the Debtors' motions requesting Court approval of such settlements filed at Docket Nos. 1057, 1058, 1061, & 1062.

- (i) the importance of the Civil Action to the resolution of the chapter 11 cases, (ii) the relationship between the Civil Action to the matters to be considered in the chapter 11 cases, (iii) the presence of federal subject matter jurisdiction, and (iv) the timing required to complete the Civil Action in its current venue. An extension of the Removal Deadline will afford the Debtors an opportunity to make more fully informed decisions concerning the removal of any Civil Action, and will ensure that the Debtors and their estates do not forfeit the valuable rights afforded to the Debtors under 28 U.S.C. § 1452. Although the Debtors do not currently intend to remove any lawsuits, the Debtors' review remains ongoing and circumstances may change. Therefore, the Debtors believe that it is prudent to seek an extension of the time prescribed under Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a) for filing notices of removal from the current deadline of July 20, 2023 through and including November 17, 2023. Furthermore, an extension would not prejudice the rights of the Debtors' adversaries in the Civil Actions because any party to an action that is removed may seek to have the action remanded to state court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452(b).
- 15. The Debtors further request that the order approving this Motion be without prejudice to (i) any position the Debtors may take regarding whether section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code applies to stay any given Civil Action pending against any of the Debtors and (ii) the right of the Debtors to seek further extensions of the Removal Deadline.
- 16. For the reasons stated above, the Debtors submit that cause exists to grant this Motion and that the relief requested herein is appropriate and in the Debtors' and their estates' best interests.

Notice

17. Notice of this Motion will be served on any party entitled to notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and any other party entitled to notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013 1(d).

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WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request entry of the Proposed Order granting the relief requested herein and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

Dated: July 20, 2023 Houston, Texas

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alfredo R. Pérez

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Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors in Possession

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on July 20, 2023 a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas.

<u>/s/ Alfredo R. Pérez</u> Alfredo R. Pérez